

*Traces in
November 1958*

Traces on Ladislav NIZNANSKY

R-986-53, dated 19 February 1953, subject: "Niznansky, Ladislaus Milan, Former CIC-CIS Double Agent", and numerous other reports refer to Major Julius VACA as a man who contacted NIZNANSKY on 22 March 1948, at the Hotel Post in Braunau and gave the correct password and who assigned missions for NIZNANSKY to perform. In April 1948 VACA, Julius, defected to the West. Reports further refer to VACA as a member of the Czech Consulate in Vienna and as a Czech operative. (B-2)

From the files of Region C, checked on 11 May 1954.
Quoted in CIC #V-37072, 19 May 1954 Subject: HOCHMANN,
Jaroslav, CIS: Suspected Operative, Vienna, Austria.
CONFIDENTIAL

The following OCS reports are downgraded from Secret to Confidential:
R-986-53, NIZNANSKY, Ladislaus Milan, Former CIC-CIS Double Agent, 19
February 1953. CI/149/54, 12 March 1954 (G2 USFA), forwarded under
EASA-3129, 29 March 1954.

430th CIC Detachment (City of Vienna, APO 777) MOIC, Subject: NIZNANSKY,
Ladislav, alias NALEPKA, Ludwig, dated 31 December 1947:

1. Pursuant to instructions from Chief, CIC, City of Vienna, this Agent conducted an interrogation of Subject to determine his personal history and intelligence activities. Subject had contacted S/A Ettinger of this Office, through one WUNSCH, Herbert, Vienna VII, Tigergasse 33/1, who stated that Subject wanted to meet with US intelligence authorities to transmit information of an intelligence nature. A brief preliminary interrogation of Subject indicated that he was an OBZ agent who had been sent to Austria with the mission of penetrating Slovakian resistance groups and to determine the amount of assistance they are receiving from U.S. agencies.

2. A description of Subject is as follows: height 6 feet; weight 175 lbs; build medium; hair blond, combed straight back; eyes blue; complexion fair.

3. Subject, when interrogated in detail as to his background, revealed the following:

Born	24 October 1917 in Lutisa, Slovakia, CSR
Education	Realgymnasium, Pressburg 1928-1936
Military Service	Volunteered in 1936 and was assigned to the 53rd Art. Regt., stationed in Hedenin, Moravia
1936-7	Attended Officer's Training School in Taber, Slovakia
1937-8	Attended courses at CSR War College
1938-41	Active service in Bohemia
1939-41	Stationed in Moravia and Slovakia as lieutenant in various artillery units. During this period CSR was occupied by German army.
1941-43	Subject's unit was transferred to the Russian front.
1944	Subject was active in the Slovakian uprising and was captured by German forces in late November 1944 and sent to a Slovakian Labor Unit.
1945	Captured by the Russians and transferred to control of OBZ in Pressburg in July 1945.
1945	In October Subject was released and accepted the rank of Staff Captain in the CSR Army.
Dec 45-Jul 46	Arrested by Military authorities and transferred to civil authorities on charges of having served in a Slovakian Labor unit after the Slovakian uprising. Subject was released by civil authorities and returned to duty with the CSR Army.
July 1947	Subject was summoned before Lt. Col. VACEK, fnu, Assistant to Chief of MI II, CSR Intelligence Service, and requested to accept an intelligence mission in Austrian against Slovakian resistance groups.

FOR COORDINATION WITH US Army

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2004 2005

(MOIC continued)

When he was briefed by Lt. Col VACEK, Subject was given the following detailed instructions:

First he was to obtain a temporary release from the Czech Army, thus obtaining evidence to support his cover story of having deserted the army on his first opportunity. Next, Subject was to penetrate Slovakian resistance groups in Slovakia in order to determine how to cross into Austria illegally. In Austria, Subject was instructed to contact Slovakian resistance groups in various zones. Through this penetration he was expected to determine the following:

- (a) the location of DURCANSEY, an alleged resistance leader, his activities and organization.
- (b) Information of activities of MATUS, PARCAN, Father LOICL, and BRAUNECAR.

Subject was further instructed to determine what, if any, government in exile had been formed by Slovakian resistance leaders, with details of its organization. Lastly, Subject was told to investigate the channels through which the resistance groups obtain tangible and financial aid, inasmuch as VACEK believed considerable support was being given these groups by Americans.

In order to communicate with his home office, Subject was given the following code, a one to one, monoalphabetic substitution with varied difference key, suitable for a field agent's code. The key is Subject's birth-date, 24 October 1917, written 24101917, and extended vertically under each figure until the original figure is reached again. . . . /more on the code and mail, courier, and Radio Prag communications/

Subject was then supplied with \$50.00 in U.S. currency and one hundred Schillings and was dispatched on his mission, which was expected to take between four and six months.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In view of the fact that Subject was most cooperative and helpful during his interrogation, it is recommended that he continue to be held in CIC custody for further interrogation pending the receipt of supplementary EEIs from ODI. (document filed in 6-7-20-23)

TOP SECRET #26963 (source USFA, no doc no. given), 8 Sep 48, re CIS, discusses Major ~~Frank~~ Julius VACA, chief of the Czechoslovak Political Mission in Linz, Upper Austria (US zone), and his alleged espionage activities, including a contact on 28 March ~~1948~~ 1948? with Milan NIZNANSKY @ Viktor MAIER at the Hotel Post, Braunau. Document goes on at great length, mostly quoting above CIC report verbatim. @Ludwig MAIERKA

"Persons listed in Section V, Part C of Attachment to MGG-A-933: 22. NIZNANSKY, Ladislav, Staff Captain Artillery, Austria."

MGGA-934, 5 Aug 49 (Ref: MGGA-933, 4 Aug 49)

Staff WO (fnu) NIZNANSKY is listed among members of the 1st (Personnel) Section of the SNB KVN B KOSICE.

R-1903-50, 16 Oct 1950 (DOI: Jan 50), C-2

R-970-53, 7 Feb 53, Subject: Maria KOISSER, CIS Courier, has extensive details on the contacts between KOISSER, whom the CIC tried unsuccessfully to double, and NIZNANSKY, whom they had doubled. (Ladislav Milan NIZNANSKY @ Viktor MAIER). This document mentions a Wilhelm MICHEL, aka MISA, an employee of the Military Section of the Czech Legation Vienna, as a third person in the chain of contacts leading back to the CIS - an individual not identical with NIZNANSKY. Seems to have been forwarded under EAVA-1832. (Attached)

Ladislav NIZNANSKY, formerly on the RFE Salzburg staff.
100-134-0328/3-25, NW-7712, 17 May 57, Encl 1 p. 1 - NIF, Index card only.

Ladislav NIZNANSKY EGMA-19334/53 NIF
CIC -L/28722

Laco NIZNANSKY named by CIC informant as a resident and CIC employee in Schaerding.
MAVA-8973, 3 Aug 51 (Persons of Possible Intelligence Interest Known to Andrei GARZIK, MIS interrogator, former employee and present casual informant of CIC, Vienna. Obtained by GRABYSM-1 early in June 51. "Much of the information is old, incomplete, and incorrect")

(born 23 Oct 17 in CSR) - sic

Ladislav NIZNANSKY was among EEI's assigned by CIS to [] in fall, 1957. The CIS case officer wanted to know if NIZNANSKY worked in the West German News Office. [] told him that the information which he had received about NIZNANSKY was very sketchy. [] said that NIZNANSKY did not work in the "KOCH Abteilung" (West German News Office), but was a translator in the Evaluation Section. [] reported that NIZNANSKY was a Slovak who was transferred from the RFE Wels Office to Munich this year.
EGMA-29554, 29 Oct 57